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60/348,834 15 January 2002 (15.01.2002) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **COOPER TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, LLC.** [US/US]; 701 Lima Avenue, Findlay, OH 45840 (US).

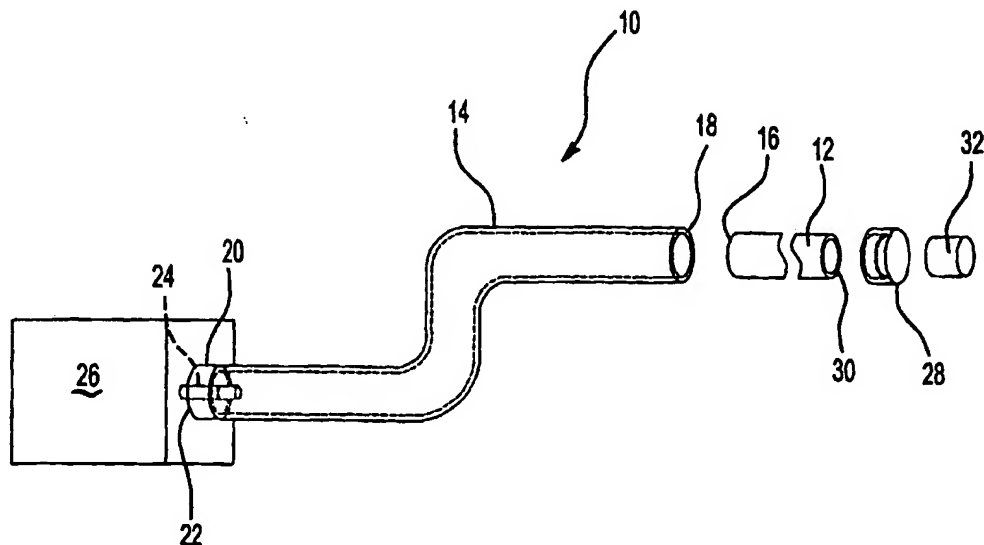
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(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **WOESSNER, David, Paul** [US/US]; 5641 Spencer Road, Mount Sterling, KY 40353 (US).(74) Agents: **BUTCHKO, Karin, H.** et al.; Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., 400 West Maple Road, Suite 350, Birmingham, MI 48009 (US).(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**Published:**

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(54) Title: METHOD OF FORMING A HOSE



(57) **Abstract:** A polymeric hose pre-form (12) is inserted into a pre-shaped tube (14) and formed into a desired shape. A vacuum endcap (20) is positioned on one end of the tube, and a vacuum is applied at the vacuum endcap to draw the hose pre-form through the tube. After insertion of the hose into the tube, the hose contacts the inner surface of the tube. A loading endcap (28) is positioned on the other end of the tube. The hose is then cured to maintain the hose in the shape defined by the tube. During curing, the pair of endcaps are flush against the ends of the hose, eliminating the need for a finishing operation. The cured hose is then removed from the tube. The ends of the hose can also be flared.

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